

Appl. No. 10/800,455
Atty. Docket No.: 2004B019
Amend. Dated June 14, 2007
Response to OA dated March 14, 2007

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This reply is submitted in response to the non-Final Office Action dated March 14, 2007.
Claims 14, 15, and 17-21 are pending.
Claims 1-3 and 16 are canceled.
Claim 14 is amended. Support for this amendment can be found on Page 33, Line 13.
New Claim 20 is added. Support for this claim can be found on Pages 14-21.

35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 3, 14, and 15 are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The term "substituted" is objected to as rendering the claim indefinite. Applicant invited the Office to examine Page 4, lines 13-32, which explicitly define the term "substituted" for the purposes of this application. The Office is invited to please elaborate on which portion of this definition makes it unclear as to what constitutes a substituent for the purposes of this application.

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-9, 11-14, 16, 17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Niyogi, U.S. Patent No. 6,451,897. Niyogi only discloses blending the graft copolymer with a BMWD polypropylene. As amended, Claim 14 limits the non-functionalized polypropylene to those with an Mw/Mn of 1.8 to 3. As such, Niyogi no longer anticipates the pending claims.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Niyogi in view of Mullins, U.S. Patent No. 6,410,629. It appears to the applicant that Niyogi discloses nanocomposite that is produced by graft polymerizing in the presence of a free radical initiator. Mullins discloses the process of producing a polyolefin in the presence of a free radical inhibitor. Applicant believes that these two references inherently teach away from each other. One skilled in the art would not use the polyolefin produced in Mullins in view of the fact that the grafting monomer is polymerized by free radicals.

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CONCLUSION

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Applicant invites the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any issues outstanding which have not been presented to the Examiner's satisfaction.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account number 05-1712. Moreover, if the deposit account contains insufficient funds, the Commissioner is hereby invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to arrange payment.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/14/07



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